

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claim 4 is cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1, 9, and 20 are amended herein.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3 and 5-20 are currently pending and under consideration in the present application.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIM 20 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112 AS BEING INDEFINITE

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claim 20 is rejected, and fails to provide proper antecedent basis for "the grill pipes bend." Claim 20 is amended herein to overcome the rejection.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(B) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY GB2286111

The present invention as recited in claim 1 (as amended herein), relates to a cooking apparatus comprising "a heat blocking member to extend below a predetermined portion of the grill unit to reflect and to block a part of the thermal energy transmitted to an edge of the grill unit."

GB2286111 teaches a grill, which comprises a grid 14 for food to be cooked, reflectors 24 to reflect heat in the direction of the grid, and adjustable bent portions 32, 34 of each reflector ensuring that the heat is applied uniformly across the width of the grid 14.

GB228611, however, does not teach that the bent portions 32, 34 extend below a portion of the grid 14 to reflect and to block heat transmitted to the edge of the grid 14. Therefore, the bent portions 32, 34 are not the same as the claimed heat blocking member of the present invention, which extends below a predetermined portion of a grill unit to reflect and to block a part of thermal energy transmitted to an edge of the grill unit (see claim 1). GB228611 fails to teach the features recited in claim 1 of the present invention.

Claim 4 is cancelled herein. Claims 2, 5, and 6 depend from claim 1. For at least the

reasons that claim 1 distinguishes over the cited prior art, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2, 5, and 6 also distinguish over the cited prior art.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

IV. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 2, 4 and 5 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(B) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY HUCK (US 3,154,004)

Huck teaches an oven toaster, which comprises a rack 40 and heat reflectors 78. The heat reflectors 78, however, are not the same as the claimed heat blocking member as recited in claim 1 of the present invention. That is, the heat reflectors 78 of Huck do not extend below a portion of the rack 40 to reflect and to block a heat transmitted to an edge of the rack. Huck fails to teach a heat blocking member to extend below a predetermined portion of a grill unit to reflect and to block a part of thermal energy transmitted to an edge of the grill unit.

Claims 2 and 5 depend from claim 1. For at least the reasons that claim 1 distinguishes over the cited prior art, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2 and 5 also distinguish over the cited prior art.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

V. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 9, 11, 13 AND 14 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(B) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY JP2002-355178

JP2002-355178 teaches a cooking device, which includes water tanks 2, a heating source 12 to heat the water tanks, and a metal bar 8 to support food. JP2002-355178 does not teach or suggest a heat blocking member as recited in claims 1 and 9 of the present invention. Nothing in JP2002-355178 teaches or suggests a heat blocking member that extends below a portion of the metal bar 8 to reflect and to block heat transmitted to an edge of the metal bar 8.

Claims 11, 13, and 14 depend from claim 9. For at least the reason that claim 9 distinguishes over the cited prior art, it is respectfully submitted that claims 11, 13, and 14 also distinguish over the cited prior art.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

VI. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-6 AND 8 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(B) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY MCLANE, SR. (US 5,163,359)

McLane teaches a cooking apparatus, which comprises a grill 56, two burners 124, and slats 126 positioned at an angle to direct heated air flow (see column 3, lines 52-60). However, the slats 126 do not extend below a portion of the grill 56 to reflect and to block heat transmitted

to an edge of the grill 56. Therefore, slats 126 are not the same as the heat blocking member as recited in claim 1 of the present invention.

Claim 4 is cancelled. Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, and 8 depend from claim 1, and therefore, distinguish over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons that claim 1 distinguishes over the cited prior art.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

VII. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 7, 9-20 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103 AS UNPATENTABLE OVER MCLANE, SR. (US 5,163,359) IN VIEW OF JP 2001-169928 AND JP 2002-355178

The comments in section VI above, apply here because McLane fails to teach the features recited in claim 1 of the present invention. Similar to claim 1, claim 9 recites, "heat blocking members to extend below a predetermined portion of the grill unit to reflect and to block a part of the thermal energy transmitted to an edge of the grill unit, allowing the thermal energy to be uniformly transmitted to the food laid on the grill unit," which distinguishes over McLane.

Therefore, McLane, JP 2001-169928, and JP 2002-355178, either alone or in combination, does not teach or suggest the features recited in claims 1 and 9 of the present invention.

Claim 7, and claims 10-20 depend from claims 1 and 9, respectively. For at least the reasons that claims

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

VIII. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

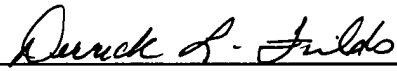
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Respectfully submitted,

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